GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:148
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2017
Construction Workers Welfare Cess Act
Muddahanumegowda Shri S.P.;Nayak Shri B.V.

Will the Minister of LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT be pleased to state:

(a)the total amount collected and lying idle under the Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Cess Act, 1996;
(b)the reasons for delay in working out utilisation and disbursement mechanism for the funds collected under the said Act; and
(c)the steps taken by the Government to ensure utilization of this fund for the welfare of construction workers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (IC) FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT
(SHRI BANDARU DATTATREYA)

(a) & (b): The total amount of cess collected by the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations is approximately Rs. 33,602.61 crore out of which Rs. 7601.38 crore has been spent as on 30.06.2017 and the balance amount of cess lying with the State Governments/ Union Territory Administrations for utilization is approx. Rs. 26001.23 crore. The Cess fund is being utilized for the welfare of the building and other construction workers by the States/UTs through their respective State Building and Other Construction Workers Welfare Boards constituted under the Building and Other Construction Workers (Regulation of Employment and Conditions of Service) Act, 1996.

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(c): The Central Government has been issuing directions under Section 60 of the Building and Other Construction Workers (RECS) Act, 1996, to the State Governments/UT Administrations from time to time for proper utilization of cess fund in terms of the provisions of the Act.

Further, the Central Government has constituted a Monitoring Committee on 09.09.2015 under the Chairmanship of Secretary (Labour and Employment) to monitor the implementation of directions issued under Section 60 of the Act, specifically with reference to utilization of Cess Fund for Welfare Schemes by the State Building and Other Construction Workers' Welfare Boards. The Committee has been holding regular meetings with the Principal Secretary/Secretary/Labour Commissioners of all the States/UTs to monitor the progress.

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